THE EXECUTION OF Henry Bury,

One of the Murderers of

Sir EDMUND-BURY GODEREY,

February 28. 167⅞.

With a particular Account of his Behaviour in Prison, and at the place of Execution.

To which is premised,

An Exact Narrative of the Proceedings at the Sessions, *Febr.* 26 and 27.

With the number of Malefactors Condemned, and Burnt in the Hand: with their respective Crimes.

LICENSED, 167⅞.

LONDON: Printed for *L. C.* 167⅞.

The Execution of Henry Bury:
With the Proceedings of the Sessions, *Feb.* 26. 1678.

BEfore we give you an Account of this Criminal, we shall present you with an Exact Narrative of the Proceedings at the Sessions which preceded his death.

This Sessions beginning in the *Old Bailey*, *Febr.* 26. the first person brought to Tryal, was an unhappy Wench, whom the devil had seduced to endeavour to cover her filthy Fornication with the scarlet Mantle of Murder, having made away her own new-born Bastard-Child, and in a very barbarous manner cut the Throat of it so violently, that the Head was almost seperated from the body, which being found so exposed in an Alley near *Bishops gate-street*, and not far from the Prisoners dwelling, search was made for all persons lyable to be suspected, and amongst the rest she charged, who at first denyed that she had had any Child, at last confessed that, but not the whole truth: however, on full evidence, nothing necessary here to be related, she was found guilty.

As were likewise a Man and a Woman for a Burglary, who broke into a poor Womans House in the Evening, whilst she was gone to buy Candle, and upon her return, were taken in the manner, having removed several Goods, but carried none quite away, though narrowly prevented, for the Man-prisoner being by profession a Porter, was busily preparing for their removal. As for the Woman, her Husband but the last Sessions received the reward of his Merits at *Tyburn*.

Another Woman whipt but the last Sessions save one, was now Convicted for a Felony, stealing a parcel of Cloths out of an House, but discovered before she had quite secured the booty, and forc'd to drop them in the street, for which she was Condemned.

A Man coming to drink at an Ale-house in *Birchin-lane*, made such use of his Art to convey away a Silver Tankerd, but scarce knowing what to do with it when he had it, gets a band-box, and putting the Tankard therein, goes to another Ale-house in *Finch-*

Fleet-Lane, where he was wholly a ſtranger, and gives the ſaid Box to the Gentlewoman of the Houſe, to lay up for him till he call'd for it; who perceiving ſomething in it to rattle, and the Box having neither Lock nor Seal, out of an innocent curioſity took up the Lid, where ſeeing a Tankard Inſcribed, with the Name and place of Dwelling of her Neighbour, ſhe ſent for him, and ſometime after the Priſoner calling for his Box, was apprehended, and now burnt in the hand, which he well deſerved, if we conſider either his wickedneſs in ſtealing, or his folly in managing the Theft.

The ſame puniſhment was awarded another Man for the like offence of ſtealing a Tankard from an Houſe in *Woodſtreet*, with whom was Indicted a Woman, but ſhe paſſing for his Wife, and ſo the Law favourably ſuppoſing what ſhe was concern'd in the Fact, to be by Coertion of her Husband, was acquitted.

A young fellow coming to a Sempſtreſſes ſhop, pretended to buy Cravats, who ſhewed him ſeveral, and ſome Money he had bidden for two, which ſhe refuſing to except, he reſolved to have them cheaper, (though like to prove a dear bargain) for on a ſudden he betakes him to his heels, but ſhe crying out after him, he was quickly ſeized. In this caſe, becauſe he had the Goods delivered into his hand by the Proſecutor to look upon, ſome ſcruple was raiſed, whether the running away with them afterwards, was Felony; ſo that the Jury found the matter ſpecially, and 'tis left to be determined by the Judges.

A bold Woman, that had lately been Servant to a Gentleman of Quality, having purloined a conſiderable quantity of his Plate, and being thereof fairly Convicted, was ſentenc'd to dye.

In the Afternoon, on *Wednesday*, a Lad belonging to a Ship, called the *Laurence and Mary*, lying below *Wapping-dock*, was Tryed for Killing one *Tho. Young* on board another Ship, called the *Advance*, lying hard by the former. The Priſoner was trying his skill in ſhooting at the Cat-head of his own ſhip as a Mark; but the Bullet glancing thereon, flew to the other ſhip, and through the boards of the great Cabbin, and there unhappily killed the ſaid *Young*, who was caſually come on board to ſee the Ship,

him in the Forehead, that he presently died; whereupon they that were with him running out on the Deck, and enquiring who fired that Piece, the Prisoner own'd it, and presently came on board of his own accord, declaring both then, and now at the Bar, his hearty sorrow for the Mischance: for as he had no malice, so could he not ever see the person dead, or those that were with him, because they were in the Cabbin as aforesaid. However, it being adjudged an unlawful Act in him to shoot so negligently on the River, where so many Vessels and People are continually passing, he was found Guilty of Manslaughter, and carries a *Memorandum* in his Hand, to make him and others more wary for the future.

The next was a base and horrid Cause, horrid in the pretensions, and a sin not to be named amongst Christians; and base in the management, since nothing of that kind could be made appear. The person accused was a Man of good repute and competent fortune, which 'tis feared was the first motive to the Prosecution, hoping to get a summ of Money out of him, rather than endure the disgrace even of being charged or suspected of such an odious Crime. The Girl that pretended the wrong done her, being between 13 and 14 years of Age, told her Story very confidently; but by her own shewing it appeared, that for 12 Weeks or upwards she never spoke a word of it, and two Surgeons and a Midwife that had search'd her, utterly confuted what she alleadged; besides 'twas made out, that her Father would have compounded the business, but demanded 100 *l.* &c. Upon all which Circumstances, and many persons of Repute justifying the Prisoners credit and conversation for many years without blemish, he was thereupon acquitted by the Jury, and with particular notice of his Innocence from the Court discharged, and the Girls Father ordered to give Security for his good Behaviour.

A Fellow at *Stepney* having one Night made an invasion on an Hen-roost, and carried away captive about 28 of them, of which some were found at one of his Neighbours houses, where he left

them, was for the same found Guilty of petty Larceny, and ordered to be Whipt. As also was another for stealing a laced Waistcoat out of a Ship, which was found upon his Back.

A Woman was Convicted of Felony for robbing one in *Hatton-garden* on the 2d of *February*. Having lately been Servant there, she had observed where they used to lay the Key of their outward Door, when they went forth, and so comes with two of her Companions, goes into the house breaks open a Closet door and a Desk, and takes away 11 *l.* odde Money and a Sword, and so lockt the Street-door and go their way, but left behinde them a Chezil, which was proved to have been borrowed the same Afternoon by her in *Fetter-lane*: and that she and two men did go forth together, assoon as she had got that Tool, and were also seen at the House where the Robbery was done.

Two Rag-women were Indicted for stealing two Gowns and several other Wearing-cloaths, in the *Strand*. A Gentlewomans door being accidentally left open, there were several strong presumptions against them, but no positive proof, so they were acquitted on Thursday in the forenoon.

A person was Convicted for stealing two Livery Cloaks, and the seats out of two Coaches at *Piccadilly* and being pursued, the Goods were taken in the same Room with him at *Marybone*. So was another for breaking open a Shop in *Fetter-lane* the 14th of *February*, and stealing one Beaver, and several other Hats to the value of Ten pound; some of which were taken upon him in *Middlesex*, and therefore he was tryed by that Jury.

A Wench, formerly a servant to a Washerwoman in St. *Margarets Westminster*, had four Indictments brought against her for stealing of Linnen, some of which was the Washerwomans own, but most of the parcels other peoples: The Prisoner acknowledged she did pawn the things, but pretended it was done by the Dames order; and it did appear, she had sent her sometimes with things to the Pawn-brokers, in that she was cleared of three Indictments, but a Gentlewomans shift that her Mistris washt, being found on her back, the was on the fourth found guilty, to

the

bns

the value of ten-pence, and so to be well whipt. As likewise were two Men for stealing a couple of Pigs at *Wapping*, they appearing very sorrowful for their Crime; which as they affirmed it to be the first, so they protested it should be the last that ever they would be guilty of, in that or the like kind.

A Woman Arraigned for breaking an House in the day time, and stealing Goods, alid that she had confessed one put them out to her at an hole; denying now very confidently, that she knew of, or was any way concern'd in the business; the Court of a sudden asking her, what the Womans Name was, that so flung the things out? to which, before she was aware, she replyed, *Mary*, and so in effect owa'd her own share in the Fact; but the things being of no great value, 'tis like only to cost her a whipping Pilgrimage.

But the most considerable Transactions of this day, were the Tryals of two most notorious Coiners and Clippers of Money, who upon full and plain Evidence, and their own Confession at Bar, were found guilty of two Indictments of High-Treason apiece; and indeed, 'tis believed, they have not equals in that wicked Mistery in *England*. They stampt Groats, Nine-pences, Six-pences, Shillings, Half-Crowns, and Five-shilling pieces; no sort came amiss to them; and they had an Art to make a Nine-pence or Groat just new made, look as if it had been Coined these hundred years. Two Witnesses swore directly against each of them, that they had severally seen them at work, both Coining and Clipping, and produced great variety of the individual pieces, which they had seen pass through their skill and handling. Their Instruments likewise, mixt Mettals, and other Utensils taken in their respective Lodgings were publickly shown. They were both of a Gang; and confessed they had for some years been concerned in such practises. The Witnesses had been acquainted with them, and designing a discovery, seemed to comply with them, and furnish them with large Money, which first they would Clip, and with those Clippings and baser Mettals, Coin new Money, and then Clip that too to make it pass with less suspition. Four Five-shilling pieces they will afford for Fifteen shillings good Money, and

and twenty shillings in Groats of their own Manufacture, for fifteen shillings Sterling; and one of them offered to teach one of the Witnesses such his Trade for six pound, and to make and sell rare stamps for Coining, at Ten pound a pair. The matter was so evident, that they had nothing to say for themselves, and so could not but be both found guilty by the Jury, of the several Crimes of Treason, wherewith they stood charged, and were accordingly condemn'd to be Drawn and Hang'd.

Two honest men of *Fulham* were charged for stealing a Mare, but upon a long disquisition of the matter, it not appeared that the Mare in question, was the same the Prosecutor lost, but rather on the contrary, that one of the Men at the Bar, had this Mare given him by a Worthy Gentleman in *Sussex*, whereupon, they were acquitted. So likewise was a Woman of St. *Martins in the field* Indicted for Murther, but by the Witnesses it onely appeared, That as long ago as last Easter Holy-days, a fray happened between her and the party deceased, and that they were down together, but the Prisoner uppermost; that the said party liv'd till since Christmas, and then dyed, having been infirm, and as was asserted, troubled with a Dropsie.

Three persons were Convicted of Felony, for Robbing a Scotch-Merchant (or Pedlar) of above five pounds worth of Holland Callime, flaxen Stockings, &c. in the night *Feb.* 1. at his Lodging in *Rochester*, three Men forced into his Chamber with drawn Swords, &c. who took away the Goods, but understanding afterwards, some Pedlers were seen carry a bundle, he on enquiry got their Names, whom he followed, and at the House of one of them, found part of his things, and hard by the Persons, and on one of their legs, a pair of his Stockings, in anothers pocket his Tobaccor box, and a third confessed the Robbery; whereupon being Indicted only in *Middlesex*, it was but a simple Felony, for which they escaped with a Brand, whereas in *Kent* it would have proved a Burghlary, which mercy the Court minded them of, as a grand Argument to warn them from running into any future Crimes of that kind, since they are like no more to be indulged by any favour.

There-

There were in all fourteen burnt in the Hand, and nine Condemned to Die, *viz.* two Men for Treason, one Woman for Murther, a Man and a Woman for Burglary, and four Women for notorious House-breakings and Felonies, most of them having formerly been Whipt, burnt in the Hand, or received other chastisements, and yet would take no warning.

ON Friday the 28th of *February*, 167⅞ *Henry Bury*, one of the Murtherers of Sir *Edmundbury Godfrey*, being allowed a weeks time to prepare himself for death after his two Companions, was carried to Execution. As for his Behaviour in Prison, he admitted Mr. Ordinary, and (as *Herod* did *John*) *heard him gladly*, but could not be brought to do what his most wholsome Exhortations pressed him unto; which was, more to regard the good of his own Soul, than by persisting in a Lye, cast it away meerly to gratifie self-designing Seducers, and serve the Interests of that corrupt Popish perswasion, whereof he alleadged himself a Member, to keep up their repute, and save them from that ignominy and reproach, which is justly due to their base Principles, and wicked Practises. He acknowledged that he did not believe many of the grosser Popish Notions; and declared, that he was educated in the Protestant Religion, and that contrary to the Dictates of his Conscience, he had renounced the same, and on the account of worldly Interest, embraced the Popish Profession, which he lamented as a very grievous wounding to his Soul. He went in the Cart holding down his Head, and seeming to pray; and at the place of Execution, would not own any thing of the Fact; nor did expressly declare what Religion he dyed in. He acquitted both Judge and Jury, and prayed audibly twice, but did not give any particular cautions to the people, though moved thereunto, only said, *They were wise enough to take warning by his end*; and so was Executed according to Sentence.

FINIS.